

RESOLUTIONS

PASSED BY

THE LEGISLATURE OF FLORIDA,

RECOMMENDING

The adoption of measures for reclaiming the everglade lands in that State.

DECEMBER 30, 1845.

Referred to the Committee on Public Lands, and ordered to be printed.

Preamble and resolutions in relation to the everglades of Florida.

Whereas there is a vast and extensive region commonly termed the Everglades, in the southern section of this State, embracing no inconsiderable portion of its entire peninsula, which has hitherto been regarded as wholly valueless in consequence of being covered by water at stated periods of the year, and the supposed impracticability of draining it. And whereas recent information, derived from the most respectable sources, has induced the belief, which is daily strengthening, that these opinions are without foundation, and, on the contrary, that at a comparatively small expense the aforesaid region can be entirely reclaimed; thus opening to the habitation of man an immense and hitherto unexplored domain perhaps not surpassed in fertility and every natural advantage by any other on the globe. And whereas it is no less the interest of the general government than of Florida, with its vast donation of unlocated land, to adopt some early and efficient measures to test the accuracy of these representations:

Be it therefore resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened, That our Senators in Congress be instructed, and our Representative requested, to bring this important subject to the attention of Congress at the earliest day, and earnestly press upon its consideration the propriety and policy of forthwith appointing competent engineers to examine and survey the aforesaid region.

Resolved, That immediately upon their passage and approval, his excellency the Governor be requested to transmit to the persons above named, to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, and to the President of the United States, certified copies of the foregoing preamble and resolution, and to communicate with the latter officer, and furnish him with all the information in his possession in reference to a subject of deep interest to the General Government as well as to our own.

[Passed by the Senate, December 2d, 1845. Passed by the House of Representatives, December 4, 1845. Approved by the Governor, December 10, 1845.]

STATE OF FLORIDA :

I, James T. Archer, Secretary of State of the State aforesaid, do hereby certify that the foregoing contains a true transcript from the preamble and resolutions in my said office.

Witness my hand and the great seal of the State of Florida, at the capitol in Tallahassee, this eleventh day of December, A. D.

[L. s.] 1845, and 70th year of American independence.

JAMES T. ARCHER,

Secretary of State, Florida.